

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/698,065

Applicant(s)

BARENYS ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Ryan M. Stiglic

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendments filed December 22, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5,7-16,18-26 and 29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Betty Formby on March 8, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 27 is cancelled.

Claim 28 is cancelled.

Claim 30 is cancelled

Claim 10 on page 4 of the amendment originally filed December 22, 2005 has been amended as follows:

The device according to claim 1, further comprising: at least one second device coupled to said communications bus after said device; said switches including an input switch device and an output switch device; said main section, said address logic, and said switch logic being logically connected to said communications bus when said ~~output~~ input switch device is in a ~~fourth~~ third position; and said at least one second device being logically removed from said communication bus when said output switch device is in said ~~fourth~~ second position.

Claim 11 on page 4 of the amendment originally filed December 22, 2005 has been amended as follows:

The device according to claim 1, further comprising: at least one second device coupled to said communications bus after said device; said switches including an input switch device and an output switch device; said main section, said address logic, and said switch logic being logically removed from said communications

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bus when said input switch device is in a fourth position; and said at least one second device being logically removed from said communication bus when said ~~input~~ output switch device is in said ~~fourth~~ second position.

Claim 21 on page 6 of the amendment originally filed December 22, 2005 has been amended as follows:

The method according to claim 14, further comprising: coupling at least one second device to said communications bus after said device; said switches including an input switch device and an output switch device; logically connecting said main section, said address logic, and said switch logic to said communications bus when said ~~output~~ input switch device is in a ~~fourth~~ third position; and logically removing said at least one second device from said communication bus when said output switch device is in said ~~fourth~~ second position.

Claim 22 on page 6 of the amendment originally filed December 22, 2005 has been amended as follows:

The method according to claim 14, further comprising: coupling at least one second device to said communications bus after said device; said switches including an input switch device and an output switch device; logically removing said main section, said address logic, and said switch logic from said communications bus when said input switch device is in a fourth position; and logically removing said at least one second device from said communication bus when said ~~input~~ output switch device is in said ~~fourth~~ second position.

Claim 29 on page 9 of the amendment originally filed December 22, 2005 has been amended as follows:

The device according to claim 1, further comprising: at least one second device coupled to said communications bus after said device; said switches including an input switch device and an output switch device; said main section, said address logic, and said switch logic being logically removed from said communications bus when said input switch device is in a ~~fifth~~ fourth position; and said at least one second device being logically connected to said communication bus when said ~~input~~ output switch device is in said ~~fifth~~ fourth position.

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2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claims 1 and 14 have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter of claims 6 and 17 respectively. As such, claims 1-3, 5, 7-16, 18-26 and 29 are allowable for the reasons of record established September 26, 2005.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

3. The drawings were received on December 27, 2005. These drawings are acceptable.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Tetreault discloses isolating malfunctioning or faulty devices on a multi-drop bus through the use of an isolation control logic circuit. The switches used to isolate the devices logically remove the entire device from the bus and do not remove a main section of the device while connecting an address logic and switch logic. As such Tetreault cannot be shown to teach each and every limitation of the claimed invention.

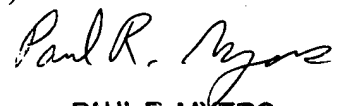
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- Fisher et al. discloses isolating devices on a multi-drop bus when they are not being addressed, thus creating a point-to-point connection on the bus between the master and target devices. The switches used to isolate the devices logically remove the entire device from the bus and do not remove a main section of the device while connecting an address logic and switch logic (a control bus is used to pass control signals for operation of the isolation switches thus alleviating the need for the switch logic to be connected to "said communication bus"). As such Fisher et al. cannot be shown to teach each and every limitation of the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan M. Stiglic whose telephone number is 571.272.3641. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (6:00-3:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rehana Perveen can be reached on 571.272.3676. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


PAUL R. MYERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

